



TORRANCE UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

TOWERS ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

A California Distinguished School

5600 TOWERS STREET • TORRANCE, CA 90503 • (310) 533-4535 • FAX: (310) 972-6456



Dr. Kaivan Yuen, Principal

September 4, 2008

Dear Towers Parents,

I want to welcome everybody back to Towers. Thank you for helping us begin the school year successfully. I hope your children had an excellent first day and will continue to have a wonderful year with us.

As many of you know, last school year, some lead fragments were found on our campus. The Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC) has been conducting an investigation to determine if the levels of lead pose any immediate concern to the health and safety of our students and staff. The vast majority of the results of the random magnetic sampling revealed nothing that was above the allowable levels according to DTSC. However, due to one of three samples taken from the kindergarten sandbox being at a higher level, they did instruct us to close the kindergarten sandbox, which we immediately did.

During the summer, DTSC continued their work at our site. The results of DTSC's investigation suggest that the lead may be coming from the Redondo Beach Shooting Range across the street. Many measures have been taken to ensure the safety of our students and staff. Any lead fragments found (including the school roof), have been removed. We will continue to monitor the situation and remove any additional fragments we find. The school district has also removed the old sand from the kindergarten sandbox, and replaced it with new sand. Finally, we have been advised from the Redondo Beach Shooting Range that they have stopped using lead based bullets and are now using ceramic based bullets instead.

I want to assure you that the school, District, and DTSC have all worked diligently to resolve the lead fragment issue on our campus. Teachers and parents need to be vigilant to discourage children from handling, playing with, or putting small lead fragments into their mouths. Should any new developments occur, I will continue to provide you with updates on this situation. If you have any further questions please feel free to call me at 310-972-3380 or you may call Tawfiq Deek with DTSC directly at 714-484-5305. Thank you for your support and patience.

Sincerely,

Kaivan Yuen, Ed.D.
Principal, Towers Elementary School